

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;  
Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman;  
Mark Acton;  
Tony Hammond; and  
Robert G. Taub

Modification of Mail Classification Schedule  
Regarding Certificate of Mailing and  
International Certificate of Mailing Services

Docket No. MC2012-24

ORDER APPROVING MINOR CLASSIFICATION CHANGE

(Issued June 5, 2012)

On May 18, 2012, the Postal Service filed a notice pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.90 and 3020.91 concerning a minor classification change for the market dominant Certificate of Mailing and International Certificate of Mailing services and the competitive International Certificate of Mailing service.<sup>1</sup> The Commission finds that the classification change is consistent with 39 CFR 3020.90 *et seq.*

*Description of classification changes.* The Postal Service proposes to amend the language in the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) in three ways.

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<sup>1</sup> Notice of the United States Postal Service of Minor Classification Changes Related to Certificate of Mailing and International Certificate of Mailing Services, May 18, 2012 (Notice).

First, the Postal Service proposes to amend the MCS language for all three services so as to allow customers to use the permit imprint method of postage payment when purchasing Certificate of Mailing or International Certificate of Mailing service for bulk mailings. Notice at 1. The current MCS language, under the subheadings “Bulk Prices” and “Multiple Piece Prices,” enumerates all methods of postage payment other than permit imprint. Rather than add permit imprint to the list, the Postal Service proposes to eliminate the list of payment methods with the effect being that all methods of payment will be available. *Id.*

Second, for all three services, the Postal Service proposes to amend the MCS language to clarify that bulk prices are only available for identical-weight pieces. It proposes to do so by eliminating “identical piece” language from the description of each service and adding “identical-weight” language to the bulk price table. *Id.*

Third, the Postal Service proposes to amend the MCS language so as to include Parcel Return Service and Parcel Select, including Parcel Select Lightweight, among the list of products with which the market dominant Certificate of Mailing service may be used.<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 2.

The Postal Service indicates that only the first of the three changes—permitting customers to use the permit imprint method of postage payment for bulk purchases of the three Certificate of Mailing services—is intended to change the current Certificate of Mailing service offerings. *Id.* It characterizes the second and third changes as a clarification and a correction, respectively. *Id.* at 1-2. The Postal Service further indicates that it intends to make changes to the Domestic Mail Manual and the International Mail Manual so that the proposed changes will become effective on August 6, 2012. *Id.* at 2.

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<sup>2</sup> The MCS presently lists Certificate of Mailing service pertaining to both market dominant and competitive products as a single market dominant service. At an appropriate time, the Postal Service should, as it has for International Certificate of Mailing service, create separate listings for Certificate of Mailing service pertaining to market dominant and competitive products.

*Comments.* Comments were filed by the Public Representative.<sup>3</sup> No other interested person submitted comments. The Public Representative states that because the proposed changes do no more than expand the number of postage payment options for certificate of mailing customers, increase the number of products for which this service may be used, and clarify the availability of bulk prices, the proposed changes to the MCS language are truly minor in nature and are appropriate for notice pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.90 and 3020.91. PR Comments at 2. The Public Representative concludes that the proposed classification changes are not inconsistent with 39 U.S.C. § 3642. *Id.*

*Commission analysis.* The proposed classification change was filed pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.90 and 3020.91 applicable to changes initiated by the Postal Service to assure product descriptions in the MCS accurately represent current product and service offerings of the Postal Service. Notices filed pursuant to rule 3020.90 *et seq.* are limited to changes in the MCS that are relatively minor in nature and that do not entail modifying either the market dominant or the competitive product list. If the change satisfies these criteria, the Commission shall, subject to editorial corrections, change the MCS to coincide with the effective date of the proposed change. 39 CFR 3020.93. The Commission concurs with the Public Representative's determination that the changes proposed by the Postal Service are truly minor in nature and are not inconsistent with 39 U.S.C. § 3642.

Accordingly, the Commission accepts the change specified in the Postal Service's Notice and shall make conforming modifications to the draft MCS.

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<sup>3</sup> Public Representative Comments on Postal Service Notice of Minor Classification Change, May 29, 2012 (PR Comments).

*It is ordered:*

1. The proposed classification change is consistent with 39 CFR 3020.90 *et seq.*
2. Conforming modifications will be made to the draft Mail Classification Schedule.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove  
Secretary